2/9/72

Mr. Ed Planer
WDSU-TV
520 Royal St.,
New Orleans, La.

Dear Ed,

As you know, whenever I learn anything about your Oswald footage and what happened to it, I let you know. In this case, I ask that you keep this in confidence for a number of reasons, including that it is part of an ongoing, difficult and far from complete investigation I do plan to carry further. I am sending a copy to Sal Panzeca and , with the same request of confidentiality.

It was taken me from late 1968 until today to get a photocopy of the number the Secret Service put on their print of your remaining footage. I told you the essence of what it says. There was no legitimate reason for withholding it from me. Regulations, to the contrary, require that it be provided, as does the law. Not until the idea got accepted that if necessary I would again resort to the law (as I have, in court, three times, besides exhausting administrative remedies as a prelude to here) was it provided, this time with the pretense that it had been in the past. The fact is that in this case I think the Secret Service saw to it that it was provided. I forced them to deliver their print to the Archives, where it now is unless there has been a frame-by-frame comparison, in which event it was to have been returned to the Secret Service, the copy provided the Warren Commission by the FBI in that event satisfying all overt needs.

The legend, all caps, reads: FILM OF WDSU TV, CHANNEL 6, NEW ORLEANS, RAY ODIORNE, SHOOTING OSWALD, ORDERED H. SCHEIL, JR., AND SUBSEQUENTLY TURN UP MISSING OUT CIRCULARS 8/10/63 in [illegible] NEW ORLEANS.

Now I have never seen anyone in the still-existing footage you have and of which you were kind enough to let me have a copy, the FBI's copy or that of the Secret Service, that shows a third man "passing out circulars". I have FBI reports saying this of stills, as you know, for I sent you copies. I have descriptions of this missing man. As you also know, your footage as of the time you lent me copy it does not contain all that remained after outtaken, for you and Jesse Core both remember seeing him in it. Jesse also remembers chasing that character, which it need not be paranoid to suspect may account for Jesse's disappearance from the footage, in whatever miraculous way.

Much time has passed, and at the time you had no reason to make special mental notes, or written ones. But I think it would be a good thing if you would, when you have time to think, make a note of all the people who ever had access to that footage beginning 11/22/63, and letting me know who and approximately when. Today all copies are identical, yours, the FBI's and the Secret Service's. But the proof I have from both the FBI and the Secret Service is pretty solid that there was editing after you and Jesse at least ran it after 11/22/63.

On a subject that may interest Sal, in the still-existing footage is a man who can be taken to be Clay Shaw. I do not believe it is. Confidentially, Wecht kept a print, and I know who has it and thinks it does show Shaw. Wecht has promised to write me about the stills, but he never does. He made a total of 17. I know who is supposed to have them, but the time has not yet come for me to press for access to them. Wecht says he kept no prints.

Best regards, Harold Weisberg